

Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 ORM-02 AID-05 FDRE-00
OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 AGRE-00 COME-00 SS-15
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15
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R 261035Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4676
US MISSION GENEVA 824
USUN NEW YORK 3386

UNCLAS BEIRUT 3587

STATE ALSO PASS AID/NE/ME

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNHCR, LE
SUBJECT: UNHCR APPEAL FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN LEBANON

REF: (A) GENEVA 5976, (B) ROME TOAID A-UNN (NOTAL)

1. UNHCR DEP REG REP SOLH MET WITH AID REP ON JULY 21, 1977
AND PROVIDED COPY OF DOSSIER ON PROJECT DISCUSSED REF (A).
PRELIMINARY REVIEW CONFIRMS BASIC ELEMENTS, HOWEVER, COOPERATION
OF QUOTE UN FAMILY UNQUOTE AS DESCRIBED IN PARA 4, REF (A)
NOT COVERED. WE HAVE CONFIRMED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT WFP PROJECT
2370/Q, DESCRIBED REF (B), WILL RELATE TO UNHCR PROPOSAL.
FURTHERMORE, WE HAVE CHECKED CRS PROJECTS FUNDED BY US AND FIND
THAT TWO LOCATIONS, MTEIN AND ALMA, ALREADY BE DEALT WITH
BY CRS. WE HAVE ADVISED SOLH ACCORDINGLY.

2. PROJECT DATA SHOWS THAT 15 VILLAGES HAVE BEEN SURVEYED,
NINE IN MOUNT LEBANON AND SIX IN NORTH LEBANON. TOTAL
REGISTERED POPULATION IN THE 15 WAS 31,000 OF WHICH OVER 21,000
WERE DISPLACED. A CENSUS OF DESTRUCTION SHOWED SOME 520 HOMES
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COMPLETELY DESTROYED AND OVER 1,500 PARTLY DESTROYED OR DAMAGED.
ANOTHER THREE VILLAGES, TWO IN THE BEKAA AND ONE IN NORTH LEBANON,
STPLL BEING SURVEYED WOULD POTENTIALLY BRING THE DISPLACED
FIGURE TO 31,640, THE HOUSES DESTROYED TO 727 AND THOSE PARTLY
DESTROYED OR DAMAGED TO CLOSE TO 2,000. THE GENERAL MIGRATION
HAS BEEN TO NEIGHBORING VILLAGES, A FACTOR FAVORING THE
PROSPECTS FOR PORJECT SUCCESS. REMAINING SEVEN VILLAGES FOR

TOTAL OF 25 ARE YET TO BE DESIGNATED BY GOL.

3. BASIC APPROACH IS TO PROVIDE VILLAGERS WITH GRANT RESOURCES TO REPAIR OR RECONSTRUCT THREE-ROOMS: COMMON ROOM, KITCHEN AND WASH ROOM-TOILET. LARGER FAMILIES WILL BE ALLOWED TO REPAIR TWO COMMON ROOMS. FOR HOMES ONLY LIGHTLY DAMAGED, THE TOTAL GRANT ALLOWABLE FOR REPAIR OF THE WHOLE HOUSE IS LL. 3,000 (\$1,000). WITH APPROPRIATE JUSTIFICATION AND NEED, THE MIN HOUSING CAN ENTER INTO TWO CONTRACTS WITH THE OWNER, ONE FOR A UNHCR GRANT AND A SECOND FOR A LOAN UNDER EXISTING DECREES. NEED WILL BE ESTABLISHED BY THE LOCAL MIN SOC WELFARE REPRESENTATIVES

REPAIRS AND RECONSTRUCTION OF COMMUNITY BUILDINGS WILL BE COVERED FROM THE MIN SOC WELFARE BUDGET, SUPPORTED WHERE POSSIBLE BY THE MIN HOUSING.

4. AID REP TOLD UNHCR THAT PROJECT APPEARED TO BE EXCELLENT APPROACH TO RETURN PEOPLE TO VILLAGES, RESTORE DWELLINGS AND COMMUNITY OFFICES AND FACILITATE RESUMPTION OF NORMAL CONDITIONS. ALSO DESCRIBED 1977 U.S. GRANT FOR HOUSING REPAIR AND PENDING INVESTMENT GUARANTY LOAN WITH EMPHASIS ON DIRECTING FUNDS TO LOW-INCOME FAMILIES. RESPONDED TO QUESTION WHETHER US WOULD SUPPORT UNHCR PROJECT THAT DECISION WOULD BE MADE IN WASHINGTON. IN ANY EVENT, BOTH AGREED TO WORK CLOSELY IN COORDINATING WITH GOL.

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5. WHILE MISSION CERTAINLY WELCOMES UNHCR EFFORT, WE CANNOT ENDORSE U.S. CONTRIBUTION BEYOND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF WFP 2370/Q NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR PL 480, TITLE II COMMODITIES. ASSUMING THAT POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTION AND GIVEN LEVEL OF U.S. ASSISTANCE ALREADY PROVIDED TO UN FOR LEBANON PLUS CURRENT AND PLANNED CONCENTRATION OF BILATERAL RESOURCES IN HOUSING REPAIR AND RECONSTRUCTION, WE SHOULD NOT NEED CONTRIBUTE FURTHER. WE SUGGEST THAT REPLY TO UNHCR APPEAL STRESS FOREGOING AND CITE THIS AS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR OTHER DONORS TO COME FORWARD. LOCALLY, WORKING WITH GOL AND UNHCR, WE WILL SEEK TO ASSURE THAT BILATERAL ASSISTANCE REINFORCES UNHCR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. THIS MAY WELL COME INTO PLAY IN CASES WHERE UNHCR FUND GRANTS ARE SUPPLEMENTED BY MIN HOUSING LOANS WHICH MAY COME FROM BILATERAL FUNDS. OUR ATTENTION WILL NECESSARILY FOCUS ON AVOIDING DUPLICATION AND ASSURING THAT ALL ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY BILATERAL, REACHES THOSE WITH GREATEST NEED.

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770266-0295
Format: TEL
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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